moval of this stigma on Rumania's honour, but also more weighty considerations concerning her very national existence. In the long run no community, however impervious to contamination, can survive with a stinking cesspool in its midst.

The late Minister of Justice, M. Hamangiu, in June, 1931, addressed a circular to the judges reprimanding them for their remissness, and calling upon them to supervise more strictly the carrying out of the law in the case of abuses committed by dishonest merchants and manufacturers. His rescript contained the following passage: "The lack of sanctions against defaulters threatens the security of the country's credit. The gravest infractions are committed in bankruptcy cases. So far the magistracy has been too lenient; this becomes obvious from bankruptcy statistics of the last four years, the returns of which amount to thousands of millions of lei, and compositions are concluded on the basis of payment to the extent of 3 per cent to 8 per cent. What is particularly staggering is the excessive indulgence shown in the repression of penal offences in cases of simple or fraudulent bankruptcy. . . ." The Minister concluded by stating that this could no longer be tolerated, and gave instructions for restricting these abuses.

The opportuneness of radical reform in judicial methods is more than urgent since an unscrupulous debtor by force of chicanery is allowed to postpone the hearing of his case by the courts for years, during which time he not only has every opportunity of alienating his assets by overtly transferring them to relatives and friends, but what is most revolting, he has often the possibility by dexterous manipulation of subordinate officials, of making away with the most incriminating documents which his unsuspecting adversary has submitted to the Court for its enlightenment.

The late M. Hamangiu, whose untimely death all friends of Rumania must deplore, was a bosom friend of Prof. Iorga and as such fully recognized the imperative necessity of maintaining a high standard of justice in the country. In this respect he undoubtedly shared the opinion of one of our distinguished historians, Mr. Ramsay Muir, that "in the Western view no people can be called fully civilized until